

REMARKS

Prior to the Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-49 were pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 2, 29-32, 35, 42 and 48-49 have been amended, claim 46 has been cancelled, and new claims 50-60 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-45 and 47-60 are currently pending.

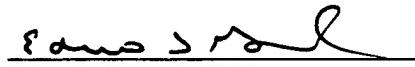
The Preliminary Amendment has also amended the specification to accord SEQ ID NOs. to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences disclosed throughout the specification. The transmission cover sheet includes a signed statement of equivalence of the CRF on disk and the attached paper copy of the SEQUENCE LISTING.

Applicants have also amended the specification to insert priority/continuity claims.

No new matter has been added as a result of this Amendment.

Entry of the Amendment and favorable examination of the application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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